

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Grover Cleveland <wylde@nccn.net>  
Subject: [6294] "Stealth" antenna wire - almost there  
Message-ID: <315AADA7.3299@nccn.net>

An update for those who were curious:

I have some samples of wire coming from Davis RF. In the meantime I raided the wire room at work and came up with some 26 ga. teflon-coated wire in a gray sheath that I will use on the next trip.

Again my goal is to have an antenna that is virtually invisible in urban hotel environments and also extremely easy to deploy and to pack. I am using a forty-9er and everything must fit into three Altoids boxes (my design requirement) including radio, key, batteries, and antenna. Incidentally I am using one Altoids box as a key - it contains a microswitch, and tapping on the partially open lid sends the Morse.

.73

Grover WT6P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)  
Subject: [6310] 10 meter qrp xtal rig  
Message-ID: <v02130500ad809a9f8b45@[192.91.202.41]>

So how do we make a cheap radio to get lots of people talking on Es?  
Modify the 40-9'r to be a 10-9'r?

1. A preamp would be needed. Bad for intermods; are there any strong signals around 10 meters anyway? (high power cb people?)
2. Crystal. The qrp freq is 28.060, but Digikey has xtals at 28.000, 28.322 and 28.636. I estimate at best a 20 Khz swing, and only half that for the band edge if we stay legal. Any 28.060 rocks out there? The Digikey rocks are in the phone section of the band.
3. Power amp The transistors will have to be a little more expensive, as we are asking for gain at higher frequencies. Layout will be more critical also, but should be alright with the small boards we are now used to ;-). Maybe this is the surface mount project?

72, ab7oa

Kent Torell      torell@sicom.com      602-483-2867 x40  
SICOM      7585 E. Redfield, #202      Scottsdale, AZ      85260

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: rflight@VNET.IBM.COM  
Subject: [6323] 10 meters QRP  
Message-ID: <199603282227.RAA73119@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

I was fortunate enough to have an HTX-100 during the last sunspot peak, and used it for travel. I worked the world Japan, USSR, and maintained coast to coast lunch hour schedules for a week I spent at White Sands, N.M. My savored moment is when at the 5 watt position (I have yet to use 25 watts with it), I shut down a DX pileup at some "rare" site in the Caribbean. I have a poor memory of the exact location... (not really DX for NM) as I rather enjoy ragchews. My patience is thin, so I know I made scant few attempts to establish contact. When I reported 5 watts mobile SSB from N. Mex., the OP asked the "guns" to QRX for the QRP station. The QSO lasted something like 20 minutes, while I reported all the nitty gritty on the wherefore and howcomes on my station, where I was from, what I was doing there, etc... he was very curious, and I think a good number of the cloud burners were getting anxious before he signed with me and went back to "work". I never quite recovered from that experience. I don't even recall if I exchanged QSL cards. It was one of many contacts that made summer in the desert a pleasant experience:-)

I used a trimmed base loaded CB mag mount which I could port with me on business trips, and a cigar lighter adapter for fuel. Hertz never even charged me for the milliamps. Oh dem good old daze. I sure do miss em.

Chuck should start a new contest category. He can get us all motivated and off scanning the garage sales to see who can win the prize for the lowest cost "working" CB rig, and the lowest gross price for conversion investment. Wow guys... a whole new tangent... er... frontier... (yeah! that's the ticket...) a whole new frontier for us to pursue.

72/3 de N3G0      Gary      -      Raleigh, NC

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: bfollett@ditell.com  
Subject: [6335] 10M CW rules  
Message-ID: <199603290211.TAA14833@orion.ditell.com>

Patrick wrote:

<<Here's my suggestion:

Score = (contacts)\*(grids)\*(QRP-L numbers)>>

The only fascinating thing about this approach is that only CHUCK is at unity for numbers, and latecomers have a 500+ multiplier!!

Sorry guys, I like the original proposal. And no, I don't think it is that complicated. I have watched lots of efforts on 10M, and unless you emphasize the listening, and calling CQ to a "dead band", it ISN'T GOING TO WORK!!

And for those of you who are "Time Challenged", if you can't make one decision, once a year, to decide whether to log in local or UTC time, I am not sure you are up to ANY contest.

So there! es 72, Bob

-----  
Bob Follett WA7FCU, QRP-L # 129, NorCal, ARCI, 10-10  
2861 Estates Dr. VOICE: 801.649.6457  
Park City, UT 84060 Home Office E-mail: bfollett.ditell.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: wdzeares@ix.netcom.com (W. Dennis Zeares )  
Subject: [6333] 20M is staying open longer  
Message-ID: <199603290125.RAA21011@dfw-ix3.ix.netcom.com>

I have noticed this week that 20 Meters is staying open later and later... and we could use some QRP stations around 14060....  
Tonight I worked KD40BQ in Orlando at 0107 to 0118.. he was running an OHR rig at 1 watt--me an Argonaut 509 at about 3 watts and an indoor dipole "v"... even as I write at 0126UTC W1AW is still peaking S6 on the Argo... in fact you can use W1AW to tell propagation ...

Anyway, things seem to be getting better.... and I have heard a lot of DX on 20M in the extra portion cw...

So all you 40M guys might want to come along to 20M and pick up a few new states and qrp stations in the log...

72/73 Dennis K3ETS Dallas

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: gary-r-hanson@uiowa.edu (Gary R. Hanson)  
Subject: [6308] 40-9er Works!!!  
Message-ID: <v02130500ad808fea9702@[128.255.164.50]>

Hey Gang,

Add my name to the growing list of satisfied builders of the Norcal 40-9er. In spite of my thick bifocals and shaky soldering hand, I was able to get my 40-9er working with only one major solder bridge. Those trace lines around the 2N3904 are pretty close for these old eyes and hands. Once I cleared the bad soldering job, the rig worked great. Even with a DCT Loop 5 feet off the floor inside a brick apartment building, I can hear lots of signals. With a long wire thrown off the balcony into a tree, the audio fills the earphones. I haven't worked any one yet, but with a half watt and an antenna 5 feet in the air I'm not expecting miracles. I'll let you know when I make my first contact.

I made one little mod by adding an old surplus variable cap (9pf to 35pf) from FAIR Radio Sales in Ohio (?) and brought it through the outside case so I could tune with a knob instead of a screwdriver. Incidentally, I'm not using an Altoid box, but opted for a small aluminum enclosure. Pictures will be forthcoming soon.

I put a frequency counter on the rig and it tunes from 7041.1 to 7045.3... not too bad! I also built a momentary push-button switch into the top of the case for the keyer, added a jack for the power input source, earphone plug, and antenna connector. The whole thing fits (including the battery) nicely into the palm of my hand. When time and weather permit I am headed for the nearest park where I can throw a good inverted vee into the tree tops and see what the rig can do.

To Wayne, Jim and Doug a hearty thanks for ANOTHER splendid design, a great kit and a fabulous price.

>From one very happy and satisfied customer,

72,73,

Gary, KJ5VW/0

Gary R. Hanson

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>  
Subject: [6325] ARCI logo font  
Message-ID: <199603282257.AA26198@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

Gentlemen,  
I have a question regarding the ARCI (5QRP) logo.  
In a group this large, somebody simply *\*MUST\** know the answer.

The question is in reference to the logo on the ARCI logo.

Across the top of the logo, just inside of the  
double ellipse, are the words

AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB

The words are curved to follow the ellipse, and they  
are in some very heavy serif'd font. The font might be  
classed as a "rustic" font.

Maybe somebody in this group recognizes an equivalent  
font. Most fonts are available in equivalent (generic) forms  
from each of the large font houses. So even if I cannot find  
the exact duplicate, maybe somebody knows of a generic that  
would be considered very close.

I am helping one of our esteemed members to reduce this logo  
to a PostScript file. I have managed to reduce about 60% of  
the remainder, but I am stuck on the font.

Thanks,  
Charles  
ac5gt  
--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)  
Subject: [6295] Atomic Keyer AK-1  
Message-ID: <9603281527.AA11102@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

Hi all,

Several people have asked for more details around the keyer.

First off, it's called the Atomic Keyer.

Bob Gobrick gave me the idea in a message to me questioning "what is this some sort of Atomic Keyer or something?"

I thought that was a neat idea!

It's a Pic based design, and it has memory that allows 4 message strings.

It's low current consumption < 500 micro amperes, and plan on sleep mode for "shelf life current draw" (No on-off switch)

It has a piezo feedback mechanism, and a novel speed control that uses the piezo to let you know the adjustment of the keying speed.

We're hoping to have kits available in the next couple months, but we're still refining looking for input at the hamfest.

It's better to have it refined than to rush it!

73 Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>  
Subject: [6280] Attn HW8, HW9 owners!  
Message-ID: <199603280714.HAA17425@mail.enterprise.net>

Good day and thanks for reading this.

I am needing some info on the HW8 and HW9 for my web page. Can you remind me of :

Size, weight, bands, IF freq, filters and any other info that might be of use to say, those new to the hobby who wish to find out a little on the rigs.

Thanks

-----  
73

Frank G3YCC G QRP 042

QRP Web Page: <http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: vhatley@usa.pipeline.com (Vernon A. Hatley)  
Subject: [6300] C-21sold + Kent keys  
Message-ID: <9603281636.AA22362@pipe7>

The Century 21 has been sold. Thanks for all the interest.

Does anyone know if Kent Key in Arkansas is still in around? I have been calling for the last 3 days and can't get a answer. I finally make up my mind which set of paddles I want, and now I can't order them. :-(

72/73

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KK5RO Butternut Vertical  
Vernon A. Hatley Oak Hills Explorer II  
QRP-L #325

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>  
Subject: [6296] Contratulations!  
Message-ID: <199603281621.AA25475@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

Guys,

One among us has upgraded, and is trying to maintain a low profile (i.e. is not advertising). David Kreinberg has passed all elements and is now and Extra class. He was KK5HA and is now AC5GY (Great Years).

Congratulations!

Charles Cashion  
AC5GT

--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: nf0r@slacc.com  
Subject: [6301] Crackle Paint Source?  
Message-ID: <9603281045.D4782ra@slacc.com>

Looking for a brand name and a source for a high-quality black crackle finish paint!

Many thanks in advance.

de Dave, NF0R      nf0r@slacc.com~

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Subject: [6321] Envirotronic Paddle  
Message-ID: <199603282132.VAA28427@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Re the picture of the model 501F from Envirotronic is on ftp.LeHigh.edu. This note is to let you know that the price for same went up to \$64.95 and still \$5.50 for shipping and handling.

We knew the price was too good to be true for very long and it look likes the demand caught up or vice versa.

FYI

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60)    adams@sgi.com  
Box 181150, Dallas, TX    75218-8150

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>  
Subject: [6315] exams  
Message-ID: <924CB84ACD@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Well, at the beginning of the year I thought "This is the year" and started pushing for Extra class. BUT, chairmanship, campus politics and life in general have methods of getting in the way. In reading about July 1 as being the new date for extra class questions, I sent ARRL an Email and asked when they would have the questions available. I got them back the next day. Initially, I thought there was not much change. Was I WRONG!!!!

If I pass theory now, will that hold after July 1 when I will have a



chance for code?? Right now I am doing little, if any, operating.  
Maybe that will change if I can afford to take the time for my 49-er.  
I do have the kit and an empty Altoid box.

Thanks

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.  
Department of Biology  
Indiana University Northwest  
Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718  
FAX: (219)980-7125

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: larsennc@alaska.net (Nancy-KL7NY/Jim-AL7FS/Julian-WL7MP)  
Subject: [6278] F.S QRP+ and TS520S  
Message-ID: <v01510101ad7fdc59ad05@[206.149.66.96]>

Greetings from Alaska.

My QRP+ is for sale for \$475.00. I will pay shipping in the US. This rig  
is in mint condition and has the cw and last-mode eeprom upgrades.

(I hope someone buys this soon or I'll just have to keep it. It is a great  
rig. I just don't really need 8-10 HF rigs.)

I also have a Kenwood TS520S for sale for \$245. Buyer pays shipping.

Respond to larsennc@alaska.net and jlarsen@alasc.com

73,

Jim Larsen  
AL7FS  
Anchorage

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: NYOUNG@desire.wright.edu  
Subject: [6319] First QSL/QSO, 10 meters & stuff about Dayton  
Message-ID: <01I2VLK050DE8Y6ABW@desire.wright.edu>

My first real qso (that's the one where the other guy sent slow enough for you to get his name on the third try) was with a dentist in Chicago (whose call has changed and with whom I have lost contact). He sent me his card and I sent him mine. My card, of course, was printed by my father on his 12x18 C&P press. Hand set type, hand fed press, three colors. Really pretty. I'm lucky to have a copy left from those days, nearly 25 years ago. That card and the other two that he printed for me are in a holder on the wall.

I don't know how many "first" qso's I've sent cards out on. Probably the best one was from the night some two decades back when I heard some horribly broad key clicks on 40. Traced and chased 'em down to a fellow who lived two streets over. He was in qso with another recent novice license recipient who lived at the other end of the "project." I jumped in and we had a 3-way for a while. Then we all got together over at one of their houses to swap stories and burn a number. It was the late 70s. It was de rigeur. I do remember that my qsl of the time was printed offset by a local guy who was just then learning how to make the plate maker work. My card had a picture of a smiling turkey on it. From the Estancia de los Guajalotes Sonrientes... the Grinnin' Turkey Ranch. And I still have one of those cards.

Since then I've printed my own cards. The one I liked best was the one that, after printing about 200 of 'em on a treadle-driven press, my wife noticed had me living in the wrong county. Proudly printed on the front, underneath the call sign (in type cast in the last century) was "Montgomery County." At that time I'd been living in Clark County (where "Ma & Pa Kettle" meets "The Dukes of Hazard") for maybe 12 years. Now I have Cindy proof-read my qsl cards before I print 'em.

The thing about qsl cards is this: it's expensive to send 'em out any more. Used to be, you had this guy in New Jersey who, for a couple bucks a hundred, would send yer cards out in batches to all the world's qsl bureaus. If you did a lot of DX work, it was cool. Local bureaus were pretty easy, as easy went. All you had to do was pile 'em all in a box or bag and send 'em off to 8 different bureaus. Probably could still do that today. Most often, though, I get cards out of the blue in the mail box. One at a time. Man, that's a lot of postage. And I'm evidently not active enough as it is to keep the local bureau (in Columbus, OH) sending me the remnants of the envelopes that I've kept 'em in for years now.

That's why I'm waiting on 10m to open up. I figure that, even without a converted CB rig or one of them two-band ssb/cw rigs (with CB monitor only [yeah, right] and 10m transceiver), I can still have a

pretty good time of it. Even workin' Eskip. And I've had a couple enjoyable times at that, too.

One afternoon, not too long ago, I heard a bunch of guys on talking about some concert or car race or wife beating or such. I jumped in. They answered. I asked where they were. In North Carolina, came the answer. Pretty cool, says I just as their signals and mine faced into the background noise. Sic transit gloria. And we didn't even know that she was sick.

So I figure the deal is this: we get on the air and talk. That's been affirmed. But then... maybe we should do QSL cards. I gotta get rid of the ones I have 'cause the paper's getting kinda yellowish around the edges. And it was really nice bristol stock, too. Shiny. Like the ones you used to get from the Little Printshop, down in Texas, I think it was. Damn nice work. Even if Dad's were better.

And check out all the QSL places that'll be at Dayton. Wayne 'll be there with his wife wondering why she lets him do this year after year. And I think it's W9XX in Indiana will be there. Nice work he and Wayne do, for sure. But the one QSL guy I miss the most was the craziest of the batch. Ol' Tom Ebbert. He used to have adverts in all the mags. Ebbert's Graphics and Stamps. Westerville, OH. I used to help him out at Dayton. He'd stay at my place and I'd help him run his booth and we'd meet all our old friends and watch that little tart from Pennsylvania wander around with a herd of japanese camera freaks chasing close behind. I think that's what they were after: a picture of her behind. But I don't see Tom any more. A couple years ago he dropped out of sight. I heard from him once or so, but that was years ago. If he's still printin' cards, it's news to me.

Maybe I'll see him at Dayton. I'll be there. A lot of you will. Maybe for once Tom'll show up. And he don't even have to print cards, either.

73  
Nils  
WB8IJN +c

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com  
Subject: [6291] First QSO with new rig.  
Message-ID: <15a9f1c0@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

well i finally got comfortable with new rig and picked up a

new QRP/30 meter state. the rig is an icom 706 running 5 watts into mfj941e to a tv twinlead fed dipole tacked to the ceiling of my bedroom. its nice to have the cw filter and if shift in the same rig. i love the rig and the nice part is my wife told me i had to get it. im not going to get rid of my sw30 though. thats a fine rig also and im looking foreward to getting my 40-9er kit. its still not here yet. thanks to ai9l, jess for the new one.

73 all  
de wb1edi  
barry  
qrp-l #51  
ne qrp #431

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: dblankenship@genie.com  
Subject: [6282] Ford Explorer RF Noise  
Message-ID: <199603280748.AA260649296@relay1.geis.com>

I have been trying to use my Ten-Tec Scout in a 1995 Ford Explorer. There is a constant noise level of about S-9 all over the HF bands. It may be coming from the fuel pump but I'm not sure. Anybody ever had this type of problem? What should I try?  
Thanks, David Blankenship, WB40MK

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>  
Subject: [6322] hamfest  
Message-ID: <935D845DE6@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Chuck Adams asked about the question pool and did I think they were harder. I would say yes to that as it seems the questions are a lot more specific than they are now. But then again, the whole field is "more specific" than it used to be.

MEANWHILE, the Michigan City Club is holding a hamfest Saturday in Michigan City, IN. There will be at least three of us QRP-L people there. Anyone want to join us????

72 de WB9NLZ

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.  
Department of Biology

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Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718  
FAX: (219)980-7125

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Dan Puckett <af045@dayton.wright.edu>  
Subject: [6277] HELP ME !!!  
Message-ID: <9603280506.AA04007@dayton.wright.edu>

HELP ME !!!

Ok. Here's the story. I sent off to my favorite PC board place (that would be FAR) and got a set of boards for NN1G's radio that was in the 95 ARRL HB (not great English, but you get the point). Anyway the plan is to build the receive section and get it going before starting on the TX. I put first volts to it a couple of days ago. Here is where the HELP comes in. The darn VFO won't. Nothing comes out of it. I did the usual checks. There is power to the circuit. I checked for shorts. I replaced every component in the circuit. Nothing. I used an o'scope to measure this stuff. At 50 mV/div every point in the circuit, with the exception of the one lead of the FET that's tied to the 8 volt rail, was at ground potential. It's making me crazy. Your mission is to provide helpful hints. Or to simply solve the problem.

Thanks in advance to the hundreds that will respond,

Dan WD8AAU, ouch ouch (that soldering iron is hot)  
af045@dayton.wright.edu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: ji3m@scubed.com (James R. Duffey)  
Subject: [6302] Ideas for a QRP 10M Es Summer Activity  
Message-ID: <v02130500ad8067fea5a1@[192.31.66.224]>

Well my suggestions for a 10M QRP Es activity for this summer to supplement the fox hunt and 30 M propagation study seems to have met with positive response from the list, including Chuck's admonition to me;

" You're in charge of 10M (or is that 10m?) for this summer=8A Tell us what you want done. We'll run it concurrently with the 30M propagation study."

I guess I am now on the hook to come up with something approximating rules

and guidelines for this activity. I have given this some thought and would like to run the following rules by the group for comment. By the way I am not overly fond of rules so the following may reflect this. For you psychologists in the group I have tried to tailor the rules to reinforce what I consider to be positive operating behavior. This is strictly CW, no SSB, DSB, AM, or FM activity. If you want to try a 10 M SSB "calling frequency" try 28.345 as 10-10 members hang out here.

Anyway I solicit comments on the following proposed activity format.

1. Goals and Objectives: The primary goal of the activity is to promote CW QRP activity on 10 M during the Es season. A secondary goal is to encourage 10 M QRP operators to learn something about propagation on 10 M. A third goal is to encourage what I consider good operating habits, namely spending a meaningful amount of time listening and if there is no activity calling CQ to an "empty band".

2. Since I am a Physicist by trade I have come up with a straight forward, but rather lengthy algorithm for determining one's score in this activity;

$$\text{Score} = 3D(\text{number of days spent operating}) \times \{(\text{number of CW contacts}) \times (\text{number of gridsquares worked}) + (\text{number of beacons copied}) \times (\text{number of different beacon gridsquares copied}) + (\text{number of sessions when CQ was called into a "dead band"})\} \times 1/\text{probability of Es during the summer in your grid square}$$

3. Definitions and fine print

a) To qualify as an operating session, you must do one of three things; make one or more CW contacts, copy and identify the grid square of one or more beacon stations, or make an attempt to make a contact by calling CQ. An operating session must be more than a half hour in length. Each day operating can be broken up into however many subsessions that you wish during the day. You may choose to use UTC days or local days, but you must be consistent in their use throughout the summer.

b) To qualify as a contact both stations must exchange and acknowledge meaningful information. As a minimum I suggest RST, grid square, name, QRP-L number or other unique identifier, and 73s. You may wish to add power levels used, antennas, other hobbies, favorite restaurants, how to convert from UTC to local time, or other tidbits you would use in a normal conversation with someone to this list of meaningful information. Make a QSO not a contact!!

c) You can only work the same station once during an operating session unless you move into a new grid square, or the other station moves into a new grid square, or both stations reduce their power by half and repeat the exchange.

d) Someone will surely note that the probability of Es is not the same over

the globe and complain about this inequity in the rules. That is why the score is normalized for this factor. It is up to you to determine from reference sources what this factor is. You can use any reference source other than QRP-L to determine this factor, but the first time you use it you must quote the source. I reserve the right to reject those that are grossly unreasonable. To reiterate, you may not use QRP-L to determine this factor, although you can use other internet resources. Don't even ask on QRP-L "Where can I find out this information?" If you don't want to find out what the probability of Es in your area is you can use 1. This information can be found in fairly standard references by the way. If you need some help, let me know and I will try to point you in the right direction.

e) You must operate at 5 watts output or less.

f) You can operate from different grid squares. You calculate your score from each grid square and add them together for the total score.

Again, I solicit your comments on these proposed rules. Is this too complicated?? I want to encourage activity by rewarding contacts, I want to encourage listening to see what the band is like by rewarding copying beacons, and I want to encourage getting on when the band appears dead by giving points for calling CQ.

Yes, I realise that you can rack up a respectable score by not actually having a QSO.

All I want out of this is some contacts on QRP CW when the band is open this summer.

I am now open for comments from the floor. Duffey-KK6MC/5

James R. Duffey  
Principal Scientist  
Maxwell Laboratories/S-Cubed Division  
Suite 300  
2501 Yale Blvd SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87106

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: nf0r@slacc.com  
Subject: [6276] Isotron Antenna  
Message-ID: <9603272252.D3829U0@slacc.com>

I've never used an Isotron antenna but have seen several for sale at hamfests. The construction is very flimsy but reviews over the years seem fairly positive.

But, as a low cost alternative try building your own miniature loop. The Distributed Capacity Twisted Loops designed by WA6QBU are excellent given their size and cost to produce, just a couple of bucks. A tuner is helpful but the loops can be fed with coax too.

References include:

- Roll Your Own Compact 80M Wire Loop, CQ Magazine, July 94
- The Capacity Tuned Folded Loop, 73 Magazine, October 1994
- Distributed Capacity Twisted Loop, 73 Magazine, September 1993

I have built 20M and 40M versions for portable ops and performance is very good on 5W. The loops are VERY quiet!

Good Luck de Dave, NF0R    nf0r@slacc.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "LSM" <lsm@dscc.dk>  
Subject: [6284] J309 second source  
Message-ID: <9602288280.AA828034525@smtplink.dscc.dk>

Just got the FET's databook from Philips (SC07).  
They list the J308/309/310 series in T0-92 envelope  
AND they also do the T0-18 versions and call them  
BFU308/309/310. If you want to make a SMD-version, they  
are also made in SOT23 envelope as PMBFJ308/309/310.

Vy 73 de Lars, OZ1CJX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: teda@lexis-nexis.com (Ted Albert)  
Subject: [6305] Last Night For Colorburst Sprint  
Message-ID: <199603281828.NAA28511@rain.lexis-nexis.com>

Tonight is the last night for this season's Colorburst Sprint. Last week I used the MFJ Regenerative Kit Receiver with my 1 watt homebrew xtal transmitter to work stations in NY, MI and PA from Southwest Ohio. The antenna for the regenerative receiver was a cliplead to a window screen. The MFJ worked very well in this QSK mode. Hope to see you



tonight from 9-10PM EST.

72/73 de Ted, KF8EE

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@telis.org>  
Subject: [6281] Mail Box Watch  
Message-ID: <315A406D.4E81@telis.org>

March QRPP is on the way. 72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: QRPBOOK@aol.com  
Subject: [6331] Need QRP Club info  
Message-ID: <960328201130\_258648477@emout09.mail.aol.com>

QRP club officers:

The Electronic Data Book for Homebrewers and QRP Yellow Pages is almost ready to go to press. I still need some club info on the clubs with "\*". I have received info on the others. Information on these clubs is available from previous postings, however, I would like to have a confirmation to avoid having old or incorrect information.

If you have information on any of the clubs with "\*" or any other QRP clubs not listed, please drop me a note asap. I need the following information:

- 1) Club name
- 2) Contact person (someone who will be around for several years since officers change)
- 3) E-mail address (or packet, if no e-mail)
- 4) Club mailing address
- 5) Newsletter? If so, the name and frequency of printing

\* Arizona scQRPions  
Benelux QRP Club  
Colorado QRP Club  
\* CW Operators QRP Club  
\* Durham Reion QRP Club  
EA QRP Club  
G-QRP CLUB  
\* Italian QRP Club  
\* JARL QRP Club

\* MFJ 90's Radio Club  
MI QRP Club  
NJ QRP  
\* Northeastern Illinois QRP Society  
\* Northwest QRP Club  
\* OK QRP Club  
\* Oklahoma QRP Club  
QRP-ARCI  
\* QRP Club of British Columbia  
\* QRP Club of Ireland  
\* QRP Club of New England  
QRP Club of Northern California (NorCal)  
QRP Society of Central Pennsylvania  
\* U-QRP Club  
\* 9A QRP Club  
2005 ARS  
\*\*\* ANY OTHER CLUBS NOT LISTED \*\*\*

Tnx and 72,  
Rich WOHEP  
Five Watt Press  
Electronic Data Book for Homebrewers by Paul Harden, NA5N and QRP Yellow  
Pages.  
EU distributor: G-QRP Club c/o G00KY (after Dayton)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)  
Subject: [6285] New Memory Keyer Demo  
Message-ID: <9603281148.AA09531@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

Sorry if this seems redundant, but I forgot to include the  
message title, and I just get the digest, so I didn't realize that  
till I read the digest!

=====

Hi Everybody.

Gary Diana, N2JGU and I  
have been working on an Iambic Memory Keyer for a  
while now, and are getting very close to producing  
them.

We're looking for input on features and in general the

way it performs. So, we're taking one or two of them to the Newark NY Hamfest this weekend to demo them. If you happen to be going there, stop by and give it a try. We're interested in feedback.

73 Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)  
Subject: [6293] No rat in Phoenix  
Message-ID: <v02130500ad805157755d@[192.91.202.41]>

Sorry Bob....lots of qrp activity, but no rat squeaking heard here last nite. Rats are tougher to spot than foxes....we need a qrp elephant hunt.

72, ab7oa

Kent Torell      torell@sicom.com      602-483-2867 x40  
SICOM      7585 E. Redfield, #202      Scottsdale, AZ      85260

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: wa5whn@ix.netcom.com (Jay Miller)  
Subject: [6327] NorCal QRP To The Field/Riley, NM/VHF  
Message-ID: <199603282355.PAA18161@dfw-ix6.ix.netcom.com>

OK, we have been asked enough times. Those of You who only hold a Technician Class of license, we will be on 2 meters FM/SSB & 6 Meters SSB & 10 meters SSB. I hope the band opens. We will be on the frequencies specified; 51.7 MHz SSB, 146.52 MHz FM, 144.2 MHz SSB & 28.360 MHz SSB. Here is where those of You , who live in the higher population densities (big Cities) will really have an advantage. So You Tech & Tech+'s out there will probably have a higher score, living around large population centers. Good Luck, keep those emails coming. ;)

April 27th, live from beautiful downtown Riley, NM...Jay, WA5WHN

Can't wait for '97 either.      ;)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>  
Subject: [6328] Pictures  
Message-ID: <199603290022.QAA20605@fletch.fix.net>

I am looking for pictures of QRP rigs such as the Norcal 40, Sierra,  
Cascade, 40-9er,  
St. Luis Tuner.

I am considering posting them on a page off the NorCal Page.

If you can be of help please email me at jparker@tcf.com.

73'es,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: ruswhite@netzone.com (Russell W. White)  
Subject: [6324] QR...P(?)  
Message-ID: <199603282249.PAA22394@nz1.netzone.com>

On the 'Net is the QRP Lister  
Of a subject of which we all know it  
Though the topics do fly  
A reminder I'll try  
The "P" stands for Power not Poet

from Poets Anonymous

```
|*****|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI NORCAL NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ QRP-L#179 ARRL AZQRP#3 |
|*****|
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: msdooley@rdxsunhost.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)

Subject: [6298] qrp and converted CBs

Message-ID: <9603281636.AA09686@collie.aud.alcatel.com>

Oh dear, here I go again. I've converted several CBs to the 10 meter band. It's not TOO difficult if you start with a working unit, a schematic and a PLAN on what you want to do. My conversions were SSB rigs until I discovered 10 meter FM. I have two working 10 FM CB radios that do a very good job at 4 watts out. With my first one I contacted a ham in Seattle Washington. I was mobile, with a mag mount antenna, here in Dallas Texas. Later I talked to 10 FM folks in Alabama, Florida and other states. All with 4 watts and a mag mount. Granted, the pickin's are thin until there's an opening, but what fun when the opening occurs!

All of the above occurred about four years ago. I still have the radios and think I'll convert another to 10 CW. The problem is, I need to find a good rig to do it with... guess it's time to go garage sale shopping again!

Mike KE4PC

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [6337] QRPP Index

Message-ID: <199603290348.DAA29405@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

I typed in an index of all the articles in QRPP from Vol 1 #1 to Vol 3 #4. About 441 lines, 2990 words, 29,254 characters. Why? Cause I was ticked off and needed something to work out the anxiety attack. :-)

Guess it really is an ego problem. :-)

Anyone wanting a copy, send me email and I'll send it to you. If I post it then I'll catch hell.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com  
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)  
Subject: [6330] Rat hunt Tuesday  
Message-ID: <199603290043.TAA04238@mh004.infi.net>

OK, gang, by popular demand, the rat will be out of his hole Tuesday, April 2 from 9:00-11:00 PM EST. That's Wednesday morning 0200-2400 UTC. He will be hovering around 7.040 MHz +/- . When QRM dictates, he will try 7.110 MHz +/- . He will call CQ CQ QRP RAT CQ DE AE4IC AE4IC/QRP K (or something like that) All QSOs will be confirmed with QSL cards.

Having said that, I think we need to have a discussion. I would NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, want this form of QRP fun to replace the regular Fox hunts. Let's define Rat hunts as unofficial and informal.

There are probably plenty of Rats out there besides me. I'm a Rat because Ellen said so when I was having symptoms of Fox Hunt withdrawal. But, If everyone decided to be a Rat at once, things could get a little hectic, and the fun might be diluted. There are many possibilities, though, for lots of Rats.

But, we probably need to agree some ground rules. I don't like rules. --maybe I'm talking about a "gentleman's agreement" -- loose guidelines.

We probably don't want more than about two Rats a week. But, anyone who admits to being a Rat should be able to chance a run from his hole. If we announced our intentions to be a Rat a week or so in advance, that may allow us to be self-limiting. --without the need for a coordinator or schedule person.

Other possibilities come to mind. We could have Rats on the week-ends and on bands other than 40M. A group of Rats could form a pack and come out all on the same night all over the country, on announced frequencies.

The purpose of all of this would be just plain fun.

We could use the Rats to test our rigs and our skill. If we wanted to keep a score: The Rats could see who gets caught the most in a 2 hour period. The hunters could brag about how many Rats they've caught. They could wear Rat pelts hanging from their belts at the Hamfests. The Rats could be a laid back way of practicing for contests. --Just like Foxes, except on a less formal, irregular basis.

On the other hand, if this activity will dilute the fun of the Fox hunt, let's don't do it. What do you think?

CUL,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC  
Probably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: wdzeares@rockdal.aud.alcatel.com  
Subject: [6307] RAT Hunt--great idea  
Message-ID: <9603281846.AA24243@aud.alcatel.com>

I think the unofficial RAT hunt is a great idea...  
we could even have unofficial volunteers to be the  
RAT ...BUT--Advanced NOTICE is required!!!!  
I could have saved the money I spent on the shrink  
had I known... just think a RAT every week, all the  
money saved equals more new toys...and maybe I can  
stop going to the FOXaholic meetings...  
72 Dennis K3ETS Dallas

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)  
Subject: [6275] Rat Report  
Message-ID: <199603280431.XAA00502@mh004.infi.net>

Well, guys,

I found out one thing. I'd make a terrible Fox. There I sat for two hours,  
thinking one or two of you might be on the air.

But, I get a call from a nice guy in Ill. running 5 watts. He chats for a  
while, but he never heard of QRP-L, or QRP fox hunts. (how do you politely  
say goodbye when you're having a great QSO?) This is around 7.040 MHz.

Next call I get is a QRPer from Fla. He never heard of QRP-L either. Again  
a good QSO, but not a hunter.

A lot of QRM, so I move to 7.112. Then a call from Oregon. He was so weak,  
I was sure he was looking for the Rat. -- but no, he was a just QRPer doin'  
his thing.

Back at 7.040 another call from 5 land, but some LOUD QRM on his same pitch  
made copy impossible. We had a ball trying. I'd send to him until the QRM  
quit, then break to him. He'd get about three words out and the QRM would  
resume, etc, etc, until we gave up.

I have a lot more respect for the Foxes who copied me in spite of QRM, QRN and QSB, not to mention QLF.

And, who says not to call CQ when you're QRP? Every one of these guys answered my call.

Ain't QRP fun?!

CUL,  
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC  
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "ROBERTS Frank (MSMail)" <FROBERTS@shl.com>  
Subject: [6292] Registered: ROBERTS Frank  
Message-ID: <c=US%a=\_%p=SHL%l=M.SHL\_CANADAW\_00058E36@cocms1.calwdc.shl.com>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: HARKINC@aol.com  
Subject: [6311] Revise Paragon Mod msg  
Message-ID: <960328150927\_457214376@emout08.mail.aol.com>

Hi Jerry,

You are correct...the correct part is R44. It is a 100K and I put a 10K in parallel with it. Sorry to give out bum information. Very sorry if anyone tried the mod using R46...

73 Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)  
Subject: [6297] Solar Forecast  
Message-ID: <v02130500ad806c9edcf3@[192.91.202.41]>

Looks like a nice weekend, with low geomagnetic storming. Normal propagation for low sunspots.

-----



WEEKLY STFR FORECAST VALID: 29 March to 07 April 1996

		10.7 cm	HF Propagation						+/- CON	Mag	Aurora		
		SolrFlx	LO	MI	HI	PO	SWF	%MUF	%K	Ap	LO	MI	HI
		---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Mar	29	072	G	G	F	F	01	00	75	3 10	NV	NV	LO
	30	071	G	G	F	F	01	00	75	2 07	NV	NV	LO
	31	070	G	G	F	F	01	00	75	2 05	NV	NV	LO
Apr	01	070	G	G	F	F	01	00	70	2 05	NV	NV	LO
	02	069	G	G	F	F	01	00	70	2 05	NV	NV	LO
	03	069	G	G	F	F	01	00	70	2 05	NV	NV	LO
	04	069	G	G	F	F	01	00	70	2 05	NV	NV	LO
	05	070	G	G	F	F	01	00	65	2 08	NV	NV	LO
	06	070	G	G	F	F	01	00	65	3 10	NV	NV	MO
	07	070	G	G	F	F	01	-10	65	4 15	NV	LO	MO

Report Released by the Solar Terrestrial Dispatch  
P.O. Box 357, Stirling, Alberta, Canada, T0K 2E0  
FAX: (403) 756-3008

INTERNET FTP: solar.uleth.ca (in pub/solar)  
INTERNET FINGER: finger solar@solar.uleth.ca  
INTERNET WWW: <http://solar.uleth.ca/solar>

Information regarding the HF Propagation Forecasting Course for 19 April  
is available via WWW at: <http://solar.uleth.ca/solar/www/course.html>

Near-Real-Time Propagation Maps: <http://solar.uleth.ca/solar>

-----

Kent Torell      torell@sicom.com      602-483-2867 x40  
SICOM      7585 E. Redfield, #202      Scottsdale, AZ      85260

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: N5EM@aol.com  
Subject: [6320] Test Msg - Please discard  
Message-ID: <960328162915\_364628914@emout10.mail.aol.com>

Test - Sorry for the bandwidth.

Ed

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>  
Subject: [6314] RE: 10 meter qrp xtal rig  
Message-ID: <55520.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>

In message Thu, 28 Mar 1996 12:43:30 -0700,  
torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell) writes:

> So how do we make a cheap radio to get lots of people talking on Es?  
> Modify the 40-9'r to be a 10-9'r?  
>  
As has been pointed out in several post, the cheapest way is a used/converted  
CB set. These can be picked up for less than \$10.00 at many yard sales.

> 1. A preamp would be needed. Bad for intermods; are there any strong  
> signals around 10 meters anyway? (high power cb people?)  
>

Unless you're in a large metro area with many hams there most likely will  
not be signals of the strength to cause problems EXCEPT during a major  
contest.

> 2. Crystal. The qrp freq is 28.060, but Digikey has xtals at 28.000,  
> 28.322 and 28.636.

Rocks can be found. Except for a simple rig you may not want to generate  
the signal at the fundamental frequency. In fact your 7.040 mhz will  
multiply (X4) to 28.160 mhz therefore you could use the same crystal.

>  
> 3. Power amp

Already there with the CB-to-10meter rig.

>  
>  
I guess I'm going to have to start conversion on one of the CB's I have.  
Let's see, do I start with the tube one and build a VFO for the transmitter  
or use a crystal or do I go with the SS one. Oh yes will have to add a BFO  
for CW.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)  
Subject: [6318] Re: 10 meter qrp xtal rig  
Message-ID: <v02130500ad80ac937627@[192.91.202.41]>

>2. Crystal. The qrp freq is 28.060, but Digikey has xtals at 28.000,  
>28.322 and 28.636.

Note that Novice/Tech+ operators are restricted to operations from 28.100  
to 28.500, so the 28.322 mite be a popular choice...

Kent Torell     torell@sicom.com     602-483-2867 x40  
SICOM   7585 E. Redfield, #202   Scottsdale, AZ   85260

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "Greg Parsons A.K.A. Rat" <gregp@galileo.mis.net>  
Subject: [6306] Re: 10 Meter Sporadic E QRP Activity  
Message-ID: <1.5.4b12.32.19960328182846.002dd3f4@galileo.mis.net>

Hi gang,  
Well most of us AM nuts stay on 29.000, at least the ones I have talked to,  
So 29.000 is where my Drake lives for 10m AM.

73,  
Greg  
KE4000  
gregp@mis.net

At 12:07 PM 3/27/96 -0500, you wrote:

>To All:

>       How about a frequency that everyone monitors on 10 meters? I have  
>a few ol' 23 channel CB's just waiting to be converted to 10m and be put in  
>"monitor mode!"

>       I've noticed that 28.350 is pretty busy (when the band is up) and  
>28.680 was mentioned...Is there a standard AM calling freq on 10? If not,  
>anyone out here want to make a "command decision" and standardize a 10 mtr  
>AM calling frequency.

>

>\*\*\*\*\*

>*									Greg Weinfurtner AEE BSS	*
>*	NN	N	SSSSSSS	8888888	0000000				Electronic Design Splst	*
>*	N N	N	S	8	8	0	0		Ohio University Athens	*
>*	N N	N	SSSSSSS	8888888	0	0			GO BOBCATS!	*
>*	N	N N	S	8	8	0	0			*
>*	N	NN	SSSSSSS	8888888	0000000					*
>*									Can thou send forth lightnings	*
>*			Amateur Radio						that they may go and say unto	*

```

>*                                     thee, 'Here we are'? Job 38:35  *
>*      weinfurtner@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu                                *
>* http://ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu/~weinfurtner                            *
>*****
>
>
>
>
>

```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
 From: lbrunson@rodgers.rain.com  
 Subject: [6313] Re: 10 Meter Sporadic E QRP Activity - CB > 10  
 Message-ID: <9603282014.AA17001@rodgers.rain.com>

CB to 10 meter conversions.....

|ready-made qrp rigs! Some of the earlier synthesized units are easy to  
 |convert (especially those that used the CYBERNET 36A0X board - Hy-Gain,  
 |Kraco, and Midland were some of the brands using this board).

|To convert the unit to 10m AM, you only have to change the  
 |11.806mHz crystal, and retune the unit.

And if yo don't want to find a crystal, just change the jumpers on  
 the PLL , replace the tripler (with a better tripler... a  
 transistor and a tuned circuit) and retune it.

A few wire changes and you have a bfo too. It was one of the easiest  
 mods I ever made... I avoid crystal changes whenever possible...

7\* Lowell

Lowell Brunson - KC7DX - (503) 681-0417 (work)  
 Rosenet: lbrunson@roland.co.jp  
 Internet: lbrunson@rodgers.rain.com  
 lowell@teleport.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
 From: Jim Stafford-W4QO <w4qo@america.net>  
 Subject: [6299] Re: 624 kits  
 Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.91.960328110816.9994C-1000000@atl1>

Jeff et al, I have written to Pat and suggested two things-

1. Post an ASCII version of his catalog on the net; we could even put it on Lehigh I suspect like FAR is.

2. He might want to get some of his stuff to 4DIM; I volunteered to take some on consignment.

He said the catalog is in Postscript or something and he probably wouldn't have time to convert to ASCII, which I think is the most usable. He has not responded as to the 4DIM offer, which I made about 3 months ago.

I like his stuff, especially the little stuff like the ONEr, etc. I wish he would get more active on here.

His email is: PBUNN624@aol.com Let's all encourage him to be more visible!

73/72/jim/w4qo

On Tue, 26 Mar 1996, Jeff Gold wrote:

> Does 624 kits have a page on the net? or other email or  
> electronic catalog?  
>  
> 73  
> Jeff, AC4HF  
>  
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>  
Subject: [6336] Re: Crackle Paint Source?  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960328023442.0076e4e4@public.compuser.net>

Dave,

Just so happened last night, to the hour, I came across in one of my junk boxes a ham radio flyer from an outfit called Ham Central, 3 Neptune Rd, Poughkeepsie NY 12601 914-462-0415 or 800-721-4426 and I saw on page 18 of their 1995 catalog:

Wrinkle Varnish - Black aerosol Cat # 10-6012.

I know nothing about this store, why I was even looking in my junk box,

but as I was thumbing through the catalog the wrinkle finish black caught my eye. First I thought it was something back in my psyche about painting one of my QRP cabinets but now I know - I was just waiting for someone to ask on the QRP-L. This place is spooky...

Good luck - 73/72 bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 10:45 3/28/96 EST, you wrote:

>  
>Looking for a brand name and a source for a high-quality black crackle  
>finish paint!  
>  
>Many thanks in advance.  
>  
>de Dave, NF0R      nf0r@slacc.com~  
>  
>

Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com
bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca
Compuserve:    70466.1405@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@netzone.com>  
Subject: [6316] Re: exams  
Message-ID: <199603282050.NAA11676@nz1.netzone.com>

At 02:33 PM 3/28/96 CST, Tim Stabler wrote:  
>If I pass theory now, will that hold after July 1 when I will have a  
>chance for code??

If you pass the theory now, the CSCE you get is good for 365 calendar days. Just do it, and don't sweat the new question pool. Good Luck.

72/73, de Roger, AA7QY

NorCal 1099    CoQRP 176    QRP-L 62    G-QRP 9081    ARCI 8946    NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Bob Hirsch <bobh@p3.net>  
Subject: [6288] Re: Ford Explorer RF Noise  
Message-ID: <1.5.4b12.32.19960328133441.006743f4@p3.net>

At 07:36 3.28.96, you wrote:

>I have been trying to use my Ten-Tec Scout in a 1995 Ford Explorer.  
>There is a constant noise level of about S-9 all over the HF bands. It  
>may be coming from the fuel pump but I'm not sure. Anybody ever had  
>this type of problem? What should I try?  
>Thanks, David Blankenship, WB4OMK

>  
>

Yes, the fuel pump is an excellent bet. Ford has a kit available to quiet the pump. It should be available from any dealer, although they may have to special order it from Ford. Proper installation of the kit is essential for success in noise reduction, so if you are in doubt about your dealer's knowledge in this area, I'll try to find the kit number and specific Ford contact. E/mail me if you need more specific information and I'll dig it out of the piles of paper in my shack.

I've been through this before with a friend of mine installing the same rig in a '93 explorer.

=====

73 es CUL de KE3OB

Bob Hirsch  
bobh@p3.net  
qrp-arc1 #8700  
qrp-1 #450  
ARRL

=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: JCoote@aol.com  
Subject: [6329] Re: Ford Explorer RF Noise  
Message-ID: <960328192615\_258608475@mail04>

In a message dated 96-03-28 03:14:31 EST, dblankenship@genie.com writes:

>  
>

>I have been trying to use my Ten-Tec Scout in a 1995 Ford Explorer.  
>There is a constant noise level of about S-9 all over the HF bands. It

>may be coming from the fuel pump but I'm not sure. Anybody ever had  
>this type of problem? What should I try?  
>Thanks, David Blankenship, WB40MK

I can't vouch for the Explorer, but my 1986 E-250 Ford cargo van has dual fuel tanks. Each tank has it's own fuel pump and there is a third main pump or booster. The put out a lot of HF hash.

You might get a shortwave scanner or portable, make a small coil of a few turns for sniffing the noise.

Other offenders are car computers, ignition systems, electronic fuel systems, senders in fuel tanks.

Try some auto type coaxial lead "condensers" (capacitors) which have a ground lug for mounting the case; input and output leads. Available ay auto parts stores. Try these in series with both wires going to the fuel pump, close to the gas tank.

Try better grounds, thick braid straps from the engine block to the chassis. Depending on the interference, a ground from the exhaust pipe to the chassis may help.

You may also try ferrite "snap-ons", toroids, beads on conductors you think may be carrying the RFI.

73,  
Jay WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@brutus.bright.net>  
Subject: [6338] Re: FUTURE KITS?  
Message-ID: <199603290346.WAA10420@brutus.bright.net>

Dave -

Check out my home page at the URL below - The KK7B kits that I handle will handle any of the bands - 160 right on up to 440Mhz. They work well on 20 thru 10, and if you want an amp to go with them, the Hands Amp mates up perfectly

A combination of the miniR2, T2, LM2 and AMP will give you a real high performance rig on any 10 m - both CW and SSB

Some of the Hands kits I handle will also do those bands - he does not do 10 meters because of restrictions in the UK, but the 10m



components could be put in over here...

Hope that helps...

73

73 - Bill Kelsey - N8ET

Kanga US

kanga@bright.net

419-423-4604

<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/kanga/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996

From: okasb@shoe.mtv.gtegsc.com (Bob Okas)

Subject: [6279] Re: HELP ME !!!

Message-ID: <9603280652.AA00603@shoe.mtv.gtegsc.com>

Dan,

I ran into the very same problem many moons ago and have a couple of suggestions. Unfortunately, I don't have the schizmo in front of me here at work. I'd suggest you very carefully check every cap in the osc tank and be very sure there are no RS-quality ceramics in there. I found out that a supposed NPO ceramic wasn't and that's what was gumming up the works.

The vfo toroid will work with the tap at about 25% up from the cold end. This is general rule of thumb and I seem to remember the instructions had the tap at a lower value, although it didn't seem to matter in my case. While you're at it, boil the wound toroid for a couple of minutes. It minimizes vfo drift. Good luck!

Bob - N3MBY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996

From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>

Subject: [6290] Re: HELP ME !!!

Message-ID: <199603281422.IAA13373@alice.adsnet.com>

Dan . . . Check out the installation of the FET audio switch. The silkscreen outline on the board from FAR as well as the docs I got from ARRL had it turned 180 degrees from what it should be! I sent the handbook editor at ARRL email when I discovered the problem and they may have changed

their stuff by now. Don't know whether FAR ever got the message. This info applies only to the NN1G MkIII in the '95 handbook and not to older versions of the board.

At 12:06 AM 3/28/96 -0500, you wrote:

>HELP ME !!!

>

>Ok. Here's the story. I sent off to my favorite PC board place (that  
>would be FAR) and got a set of boards for NN1G's radio that was in the 95  
>ARRL HB (not great English, but you get the point). Anyway the plan is to  
>build the receive section and get it going before starting on the TX. I  
>put first volts to it a couple of days ago. Here is were the HELP comes in.  
>The durn VFO won't. Nothing comes out of it. I did the usual checks.  
>There is power to the circuit. I checked for shorts. I replaced every  
>component in the circuit. Nothing. I used an o'scope to measure this stuff  
>At 50 mV/div every point in the circuit, with the exception of the one lead  
>of the FET that's tied to the 8 volt rail, was at ground potential. It's  
>making me crazy. Your mission is to provide helpfull hints. Or to simply  
>solve the problem.

>

>Thanks in advance to the hundreds that will respond,

>

>Dan WD8AAU, ouch ouch (that soldering iron is hot)

>af045@dayton.wright.edu

>

>

>

=====  
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@adsnet.com  
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq  
ARCI G-QRP NorCal QRP-L #112  
=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996

From: Steve Slavsky <sslavsky@CapAccess.org>

Subject: [6303] Re: Ideas for a QRP 10M Es Summer Activity

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.960328124950.4782B-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

Hows about - work people on CW on 10 meters using QRP levels.

Thats it, nothing else, no formulas, no regression analysis, no square roots, no equalization, no nothing.

I thought the object is to make contacts and talk to people, not set up a

computer model. The less rules the better. Two way contact - all that matters.

Or as Homer Simpson says - "Contacts, contaacts, contaactacts." (in lieu of doooooonuts).

KISS.

73 & 72,

Steve, N4EUK  
Reston, VA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: earwax@indy.net  
Subject: [6304] Re: Ideas for a QRP 10M Es Summer Activity  
Message-ID: <199603281811.NAA22299@IndyNet.indy.net>

At 12:55 PM 3/28/96, Steve Slavsky wrote:

>  
>Hows about - work people on CW on 10 meters using QRP levels.  
>  
>Thats it, nothing else, no formulas, no regression analysis, no square  
>roots, no equalization, no nothing.  
>  
>I thought the object is to make contacts and talk to people, not set up a  
>computer model. The less rules the better. Two way contact - all that  
>matters.  
>  
>Or as Homer Simpson says - "Contacts, contaacts, contaactacts." (in  
>lieu of doooooonuts).  
>  
>KISS.  
>  
>73 & 72,  
>  
>Steve, N4EUK  
>Rest  
>  
>  
>  
>Gang,

So far I like this one best!!!!

73 es etc...

Charlie

Charlie Kuhn, N9NVV  
earwax@indy.net  
Censor Yourself, Not Others  
All Disclaimers Apply

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>  
Subject: [6309] Re: Ideas for a QRP 10M Es Summer Activity  
Message-ID: <199603281922.0AA117987@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>By the way I am  
>not overly fond of rules so the following may reflect this. For you  
>psychologists in the group I have tried to tailor the rules to reinforce  
>what I consider to be positive operating behavior.

This is a joke, right?

>Score=(number of days spent operating)X{(number of CW contacts)X(number of  
>gridsquares worked)+(number of beacons copied)X(number of different beacon  
>gridsquares copied)+(number of sessions when CQ was called into a "dead  
>band")X 1/probability of Es during the summer in your grid square

Here's my suggestion:

Score = (contacts)\*(grids)\*(QRP-L numbers)

This format is very close to one that has been working for years in V/UHF  
contesting. It's simple, ties to QRP-L and is non-intrusive. No days, so you  
don't have to define anyone's midnight or tell someone how long they must  
operate to be "meaningful." No Es probability or approving/disapproving  
research methods. No questionable "listening points."

>>>==>PStJTT

=====

Patrick Taber  
Principal Software Engineer  
Logiccraft Information Services  
22 Cotton Road  
Nashua N.H. 03063

Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com  
Phone: (603) 880-0300  
Fax: (603) 880-7229  
Also known as: KC1TD

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>  
Subject: [6312] Re: Ideas for a QRP 10M Es Summer Activity  
Message-ID: <199603282023.0AA18435@alice.adsnet.com>

>Here's my suggestion:  
>  
>Score = (contacts)\*(grids)\*(QRP-L numbers)  
>  
>  
>This format is very close to one that has been working for years in V/UHF  
>contesting. It's simple, ties to QRP-L and is non-intrusive. No days, so you  
>don't have to define anyone's midnight or tell someone how long they must  
>operate to be "meaningful." No Es probability or approving/disapproving  
>research methods. No questionable "listening points."  
>  
>>>>==>PStJTT  
>

Pat ....

You got my vote!

=====  
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@adsnet.com  
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq  
ARCI G-QRP NorCal QRP-L #112  
=====

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com  
Subject: [6286] RE: ISOTRON Antenna  
Message-ID: <960328080248.23e920ae@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Mike,

I wrote up some comments about the Isotron antennas about a year ago here on qrp-l. Basically what I said was that the Isotrons \*do\* work, but... I had both a 20 meter and a 40 meter version. With QRO, contacts were possible and not too difficult. With qrp, they were few and far between.

Probably the best way to think of my experience is that using an Isotron with ~100 watts is like using a conventional antenna with a 1 watt. So you can see how difficult it is with 1 watt and an Isotron.

By comparison, published specs from the manufacturers say that on the bands they cover the mini-loops are comparable to or no more than 6 dB down from a dipole.

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Dave Hockaday <wb4iuy@nando.net>  
Subject: [6334] Re: ISOTRON Antenna  
Message-ID: <9603290159.AA24582@nando.net.nando.net>

>At 14:42 3/27/96 -0600, Mike White wrote:  
>>The review in 73 seemed rather favorable for the ISOTRON - has  
>>anyone used one? It doesn't have mongo gain, but it seems like  
>>a fair antenna for a dinky-lot bound person like myself.  
>  
>I used an Isotron some years ago. It was totally worthless, IMHO.  
>  
>-- //Steve//  
>  
>Computer Associates CompuServe: 76703,3035  
>Fax: 714/557-1675 Internet: kb6ojs@earthlink.net  
>Homepage: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/KB60JS>  
>Personal homepage: <http://www.earthlink.net/~kb6ojs>

I must concur with Steve. A friend bought one locally to take camping. It was useless. It would make a few contacts from the campsites he visited on 20 meters and up (when the band was good), but his mobile hamstick on the bumper of his truck would run rings around this thing.

He was in Florida once when we had a schedule. On 20 meters, his signal was

barely readable. He switched to the monile antenna on his truck and was 57-59. He always found the same to be true, no matter the propogation or location. He took it to hamfest and practically gave it away.

As with Steve, my opinion is that it's a worthless expenditure of hard earned cash. Hey, btw, the Hamstick guys make a bracket where you can mount 2 of their antennas back to back in dipole fashion. It's cheap and works. It is narrow-banded, but it does radiate.

See ya!

73 de Dave Hockaday WB4IUY  
wb4iuy@nando.net

<http://www.webbuild.com/~wb4iuy/>  
<http://www.webbuild.com/~wb4iuy/teara.html>  
<http://RTPnet.intercenter.net/~fcarc/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Norbert.Heyder@erno.de  
Subject: [6283] Re: Long Wire  
Message-ID: <9603280752.AA19275@mail-s.erno.de>

A few days ago somebody asked for "the ideal length to work all bands using a 'long wire' + tuner".

I remember an article in the "Radio Communication", the journal of the Radio Society of Great Britain "Taming the End-Fed Antenna" by Alan Chester G3CCB, published in September '94(Alan died on 13. January 1994).

The authors intention was to find (by calculations) a length for one (so called) "Long Wire Antenna" covering as much bands as possible and also to reach an impedance as close as possible to 500hm for all that bands. He then calculated for the proper fixed inductor/capacity to match the longwire to a certain impedance to be then matching transformed to 500hms. This inductors/capacities are placed in a box outside his house and switched from one band to another by relais. Again instead of a common variable T-Tuner inside the shack he used fixed compartments outside(possibly high up) for some good reasons (e.g.close proximity of the radiating element to house wiring!).

3 years ago I needed a longwire on holidays. Had a similar question: "A practical length to work all bands which guarantees also that my ordinary variable T-Tuner can match this". After reading the article I choosed the 26.5m version, put one end into

a tree(up 6m) and the other end into my holiday-shack(downstairs) through the window - but:  
 I used no tune elements outside - no matching transformer outside!  
 Just "plugged" the longwire directly into my variable T-Tuner!  
 The tuner was placed as close as possible next to the window.  
 I used the heating system with its copper-pipes as counterpoint.  
 Did all Europe and one USA(20m) contact within two holiday weeks. Checked all bands from 160m to 12m but not on 10m(had no propagation at this time on 10m) with FT890, 10Watts and an undersized power supply. I noticed a lot of radiation inside the house but my activity was only temporary for a 2 weeks holiday on a farmhouse... No question, Alans complete solution using fixed tuning elements outside gives more radiation outside!

As a conclusion the 26.5m version was a "practical length" for me and easy to match with a T-Tuner!

The author provides 3 antenna versions(lengths):

(always put in series:

Coax feedline -> matching transformer -> tune element -> long wire)

\*\*\*\*\*

Version 26.5m wire:

BAND	TUNE-ELEMENT	MATCH(Ohms)
-----		
160	32-10microH	50 (1:1)
80	150pF	112 (1:2)
40	6microH	112 (1:2)
30	50pF	200 (1:4)
20	>100pF	112 (1:2)
17	2microH	200 (1:4)
15	25pF	450 (1:9)
12	>50pF	112 (1:2)
10	1microH/25pF parallel	800 (1:16)

\*\*\*\*\*

Version 15.0m wire:

BAND	TUNE-ELEMENT	MATCH(Ohms)
-----		
80	14-10microH	25-50 (1:1)
40	100pF	50 (1:1)
20	>50pF	112 (1:2)
17	25pF	450 (1:9)
15	4microH	450 (1:9)
12	>50pF	450 (1:9)



10        1microH/25pF parallel    800 (1:16)

\*\*\*\*\*

Version 10.0m wire:

BAND	TUNE-ELEMENT	MATCH(Ohms)
80	20-14microH	25-50 (1:1)
40	>100pF	50 (1:1)
30	50pF	200 (1:4)
17	2microH	112 (1:2)
15	>50pF	200 (1:4)
12	25pF	450 (1:9)
10	1microH/25pF parallel	800 (1:16)

(We all know that the values above may vary due to the electrical environment at an individual site!)

I put Alans work to the list because it might give someone else an idea what to do - sri for bandwidth.

72 and g1, Norbert DL8BDF

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996

From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)

Subject: [6332] re: Norcal Sierra: all bands with shaft encoder?

Message-ID: <v02130504ad80e6a31a53@[199.170.106.28]>

Hi Tony,

Doing any kind of gang-switching of Sierra band modules would likely prove very difficult. Most of the connection points are high-impedance and must be connected with short leads, i.e. right at the socket. With any conceivable switching arrangement short of a custom, 16-pole rotary switch, it would be impossible to keep these leads short. (In fact the alternative--a conventional rotary switch and 3 or 4 RG174 cables per band--is exactly what I did for the Safari-4, 4-band transceiver [QEX, oct/nov/dec 1990]. That was the most difficult bit of assembly I've ever done, and I don't recommend it!)

Anyway, the entire Sierra design and philosophy is centered around the band module: with it, you eliminate all bandswitch wiring \*and\* the current typically consumed by relays or PIN diodes. The inside of the rig is

dramatically cleaner than, say, an HW8 or HW9, both of which have complex multi-pole band switches, and the receive-mode current drain is much lower than any other multi-band rig:

Sierra	30mA
HW8	90mA
HW9	150+mA (est.--someone correct me please)
QRP+	170+mA (the new version, est.)
OHR400	300mA
Japanese (any)	600-1000mA

This means much longer life with small batteries, especially important for backpacking. Also, you can take just the band modules required for a particular operation. Weight is also reduced: a Sierra w/4 band modules stored in the lid weighs only two pounds, compared to about 5 pounds and up for any other multibander.

Most QRP operation in the field involves changing antennas or antenna tuner settings when you change bands. The Sierra band-change operation, facilitated by long-life plastic latches on the top cover, takes only 10 seconds or so--probably less time than it takes to change or retune the antenna.

There are some 220 Sierras in operation at this time, in case you were wondering. As always, I'm open to suggestions for the next revision of the design.

Good luck with whatever rig you choose--

73,  
Wayne

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: "P.F. Coppin" <coppin@freenet.hamilton.on.ca>  
Subject: [6317] Re:Question on Calls2list  
Message-ID:  
<Pine.SOL.3.91.960328154153.25009A-1000000@james.freenet.hamilton.on.ca>

Greetings:

With regard to the on-going discussion about Lat/lon displays in Calls2list, it would appear that the program might have a formatting error.

Current practice in the marine world with "most" LORAN and GPS receivers define a fix as DEGREES MINUTES.FRACTIONS OF A MINUTE x same

e.g. 42 degrees 23 minutes 30 seconds is produced on my boat's LORAN as 42 23.50 ie 42 degrees 23.50 minutes. 23.50 minutes is far easier to plot on a nav chart than 23 minutes 30 sec. (actually, a bad example, a half is a half is a half!). In modern navigation, seconds of arc has more historic than practical significance, unless you're stuck with your sextant! Tenths of a minute are easier to plot.

73 es gud qrp de Paul

```

-:-:-      PAUL F. COPPIN      coppin@freenet.hamilton.on.ca
-:  :-      -:-:-      -:-:-      VE3PFT/VA3RSI  CFH5391/MM
-:          -:  :-      -:  :-      ::      VE3PFT@VE3DTV. #scon.on.ca.na
-:-:-:-:-:- -:-:-:-:- -:-:-:-:- -:-:- -:-:- VE3PFT@VE3PFT-2. #scon.on.ca.na
          -:          -:          ve3pft@port.ve3mch.ampr.org
          -:          -:          ve3pft@ve3pft.ampr.org
                                   qrp-l 496
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@netzone.com>  
Subject: [6289] Re: Rat Report  
Message-ID: <199603281341.GAA28941@nz1.netzone.com>

At 11:31 PM 3/27/96 -0500, BOB KELLOGG wrote:

>Well, guys,

>

>I found out one thing. I'd make a terrible Fox. There I sat for two hours,  
>thinking one or two of you might be on the air.

>

>

Bob, as of 0530Z Thurs (2230 Wed eve local) your post hadn't gotten through the system to AZ. Would've liked the chance to gradually withdraw....maybe a little more notice?

72/73, de Roger, AA7QY

NorCal 1099   CoQRP 176   QRP-L 62   G-QRP 9081   ARCI 8946   NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Mar 28 22:15:28 1996  
From: Richard E Robinson <rerobins@uncc.edu>  
Subject: [6287] Re: Summer Fox Hunt  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960328082723.26010D-100000@unccsun>

On Wed, 27 Mar 1996, BOB KELLOGG wrote:

> So, look for the Rat tonite, Thursday, March 27, at 9:00  
> PM EST (that's 0200 utc Wed morning)  
..... snip, snip .....

I heard you! I heard you, you Rat. But it was Friday March 30, at 0200  
EST or was it Saturday morning at 0900 utc, I forget. Nils help me out.

Rick kf4ar